

CLAIMS

What is claimed as invention is:

1. A splint apparatus for use with intravenous therapy, said splint apparatus comprising:
 - an upper portion adapted to be positioned above a patient's limb joint; and
 - a lower portion connected to said upper portion at an angle from 0 to 90 degrees, said lower portion including a pair of sides and a central aperture for passage of an intravenous catheter, said lower portion adapted to be positioned below a patient's limb joint, wherein when said lower portion is secured below a patient's limb joint, said upper portion prevents flexion of the patient's limb joint beyond said angle.
2. The splint apparatus of claim 1 wherein said angle is between 30 and 60 degrees.
3. The splint apparatus of claim 1 for use in veterinary medicine, and wherein said angle is approximately 47 degrees.
4. The splint apparatus of claim 1 for use in human medicine, and wherein said angle is approximately 53 degrees.
5. The splint apparatus of claim 1 wherein said lower portion includes incremental measurement marks to properly size the apparatus to the patient.
6. The splint apparatus of claim 1 wherein said lower portion includes raised ridges to limit access to said aperture.
7. The splint apparatus of claim 1 wherein at least one side of said lower portion includes guides for capture of intravenous tubing.